EPA No Longer Requires Emissions Offsets for Construction Emissions for OCS Wind Energy Projects- On October 20, 2021, EPA R1 reopened the public comment period on the revised draft permit for South Fork an OCS Wind Energy Project (WEP) offshore MA, for the purpose of removing the requirement that the facility obtains emissions to offsets the thousands of tons of non-attainment air pollutants that result during construction of the OCS WEP. This new policy of no longer require offsets for the construction emissions of the OCS WEPs was established by HQ. The public comment period for South Fork ended December 6, 2021 and R1 received supportive comments about not requiring offsets for construction emissions. This policy change of no requiring offsets for construction emissions that was implemented through the South Fork draft permit is important for R2, as we will have to follow it and applied it for the OCS WEP for which we will be the air permitting authority. (Contact: Viorica Petriman x 4021)

NJ OCS Delegation Status – Currently, HQ (OGC) is reviewing the second draft of the NJ OCS Delegation Agreement (DA). This version of the DA incorporates revisions done by R2 based on some of the NJDEP comments. We expect that OGC completes its review in the next two weeks so that we will have another draft that could potentially be shared with NJDEP. (Contact: Viorica Petriman x 4021)

Status of OCS Air Permits for the OCS Wind Energy Projects Offshore NJ and NY – Ocean Wind WEP, will be located at about 15 miles east of Atlantic City, NJ, will comprise of about 98 wind turbines (WT), and 3 offshore substations (OS), and is expected to generate about 1,000 MW. Ocean Wind submitted EPA R2 its Notice of Intent (NOI) to submit an OCS air application on 9/14/2021. An initial OCS air application is expected by 3/29/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 6/29/2023.

Atlantic Shores WEP, will be located at about 12 miles east of Atlantic City, NJ, will comprise of about 230 WT, 10 OS, and is expected to generate about 2,800 MW. Atlantic Shores submitted EPA R2 its NOI on 12/22/2021. An initial OCS air application is expected by 6/1/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 12/23/2023.

Empire Wind WEP, will be located at about 14 miles south east of Long Island, NY and 19.5 miles east of Long Branch, NJ, will comprise of about 174 WT and 2 OS, and is expected to generate about 2,100 MW. Empire Wind is expected to submit EPA R2 its NOI on 3/10/2022. An initial OCS air application is expected by 6/10/2022, and the final permit is anticipated to be issued by 9/8/2023.

(Contact: Viorica Petriman x 4021)